

November 13, 2018, 2018 Council Meeting

The regular meeting of the Council of the City of Martinsville, Virginia was held on November 13, 2018 in Council Chambers, Municipal Building, at 7:30 PM with Mayor Gene Teague presiding. Council Members present included Gene Teague, Jim Woods, Jennifer Bowles, Vice Mayor Chad Martin and Kathy Lawson. Staff present included City Manager Leon Towarnicki, Assistant City Manager Wayne Knox, City Attorney Eric Monday, Clerk of Council Karen Roberts, Finance Director Linda Conover, Police Chief Eddie Cassady, and Fire Chief Ted Anderson.

Mayor Teague called the meeting to order and advised Council would go into Closed Session beginning at 7:00 PM. In accordance with section 2.1-344 (A) Code of Virginia (1950, and as amended) and upon a motion by Council Member Lawson, seconded by Council Member Bowles with the following 4-0 recorded vote: Mayor Teague, aye; Council Member Woods, aye; Council Member Bowles, aye; and Council Member Lawson, aye. Vice Mayor Martin arrived after the vote. Council convened in Closed Session to discuss the following matters: (A) Discussion or consideration of the acquisition of real property for a public purpose, or of the disposition of publicly held real property, where discussion in an open meeting would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the public body as authorized by Subsection 3, and (B) Discussion or consideration of the acquisition of real property for a public purpose, or of the disposition of publicly held real property, where discussion in an open meeting would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the public body, as authorized by Subsection 3, and (C) Consultation with legal counsel and briefings by staff members, attorneys or consultants pertaining to actual or probable litigation, or other specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice by such counsel, as authorized by Subsection 7. At the conclusion of Closed Session, each returning member of Council certified that (1) only public business matters exempt from open meeting requirements were discussed in said Closed Session; and (2) only those business matters identified in the motion convening the Closed Session were heard, discussed, or considered during the Session. A motion was made by Council Member Lawson; seconded by Council Member Bowles, with the following 5-0 recorded vote in favor to return to Open Session: Vice Mayor Martin, aye; Council Member Bowles, aye; Mayor Teague, aye; Council Member Woods, aye; and Council Member Lawson, aye.

Vice Mayor Martin made a motion to reappoint Veraine Randolph to the Anchor Group Home Commission for a 4-year term ending December 31, 2022. Council Member Woods seconded the motion with all Council Members voting in favor.

Council Member Bowles made a motion to reappoint Kris Shrader to the Western Virginia Emergency Medical Services Council for a 3-year term ending December 31, 2021. Council Member Lawson seconded the motion with all Council Members voting in favor.

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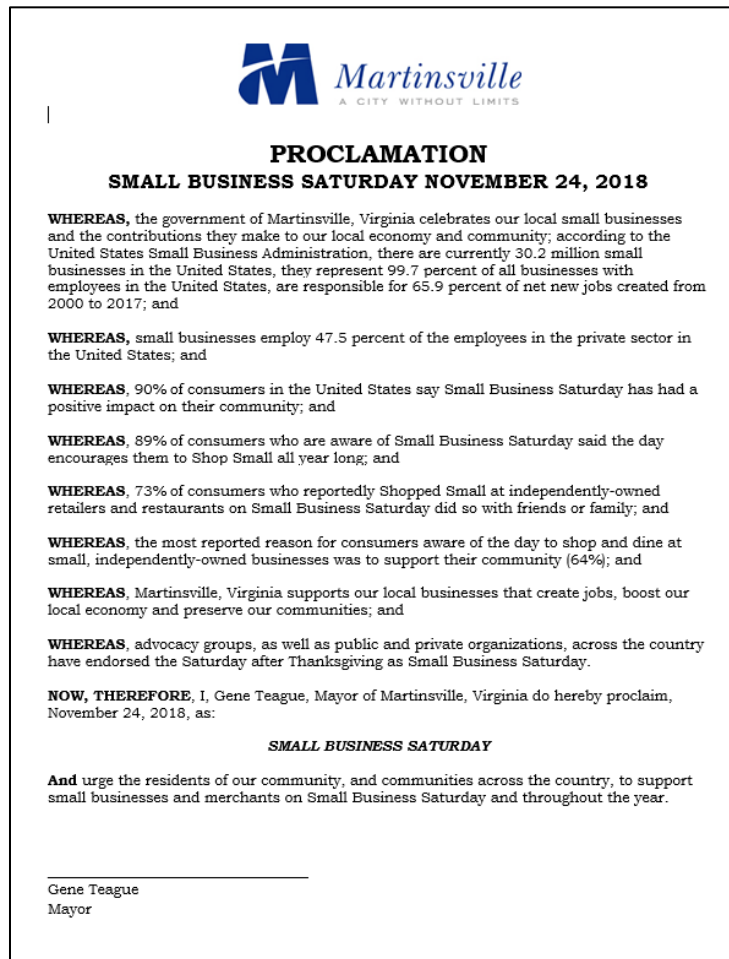
Council Member Bowles made a motion to appoint Windy Davidson to the Southern Area Agency on Aging Board of Directors for a 3-year term ending September 28, 2021. Council Member Lawson seconded the motion with all Council Members voting in favor.

No other action was taken during Closed Session.

Following the Pledge to the American Flag and invocation by Council Member Bowles, Teague welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Consider approval of minutes from the September 25, 2018 Council Meeting and the September 26, 2018 Work Session - Council Member Bowles made a motion to approve all minutes as presented; Council Member Lawson seconded the motion with all Council Members voting in favor.

Read and present a proclamation recognizing Saturday, November 24, 2018 as Small Business Saturday in the City of Martinsville – Council Member Lawson read the proclamation. Lisa Fultz of the Martinsville-Henry County Chamber of Commerce discussed events happening in the area on Small Business Saturday to encourage residents to shop Uptown Martinsville. The Start-Up Martinsville packet is now available online.



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Hear public comment on proposed rental property inspection program – City Manager Towarnicki briefly explained the proposed inspection program and the process to get that approved. City Attorney Monday explained that the program is designed so that inspectors can enter homes with potential hazardous situations, not so that inspectors can enforce minor repairs or building codes. The program will be complaint based. Mayor Teague opened the floor for public comments. Dave Gleasman, President of Martinsville Henry County Property Managers Association, which represents 1500-2000 rental units in the area, expressed concerns. While they do not have concerns with the program as property owners, their objection is as taxpayers. Respectable property owners that depend on rental property for income would not allow their property to deteriorate to the point that it is dangerous, uninhabitable or cannot make money. Gleasman feels that the program would only add to the tax burden for residents since additional staff and hours would be needed to do the inspections. Good tenants are being taken of by their property owners because that is the landlord's livelihood. The City has the authority to correct any safety or hazardous situation in any dwelling under the current laws. The ordinance will not solve the problems of dilapidated properties in the City. The City already has an enormous tax problem and by implementing this new program, it would only get worse. No one else approached the podium. Teague closed the public hearing and thanked Gleasman for discussing his concerns with Council. The program is not intended to negatively affect the law abiding property owners but to address issues with some other property owners in the area. Council Members agree that they do not want to increase personnel to implement this program and that the program would be implemented to monitor those property owners that regularly push the limits of the law related to rental property. Council Member Lawson made a motion to adopt the ordinance on first reading. Council Member Bowles seconded the motion with the following roll call vote: Council Member Bowles, aye; Council Member Lawson, aye; Council Member Woods, aye; Vice Mayor Martin, aye; and Mayor Teague, aye. Ordinance is adopted 5-0 on first reading.

CITY OF MARTINSVILLE, VIRGINIA

ORDINANCE NO. 2018-5

BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the City of Martinsville, Virginia, in Regular Session held on November 13, 2018, that Chapter 6 of the City Code be, and hereby is, amended to add a new Article III, Sections 6-22 through 6-27, to read as follows:

ARTICLE III—RENTAL PROPERTY INSPECTIONS

• Section 6-22. - Findings.

- (a) The Council finds that, for each of the individual residential rental dwelling unit described in section 3 of this article, at least one of the following conditions exists:
1. There is a need to protect the public health, welfare and safety of the occupants of that individual dwelling unit;
 2. The individual dwelling unit is either blighted or in the process of deteriorating; or
 3. There is evidence of violations of the Building Code that affect the safe, decent and sanitary living conditions for tenants living in such individual dwelling unit.

• Section 6-23. - Definitions.

The following terms and phrases, when used in this article, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this section:

Building code means the Virginia Uniform Statewide Building Code.

Day means a calendar day.

Dwelling unit means a building or structure or part thereof that is used for a home or residence by one (1) or more persons who maintain a household. The term does not include a group home.

Family means one (1) or more persons related by blood, marriage, or adoption, or under approved foster care.

Founded complaint means any complaint concerning an individual rental dwelling unit received by the Building Inspector which, after having been duly investigated, results in the Building Inspector's determination that any of the findings in section 1 of this Article apply.

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In instances where the complaint is made by the tenant, the tenant must be in compliance with the Virginia Landlord Tenant Act, if applicable, and must be current in rental payments in order for the complaint to be founded.

Group home means a licensed residential facility in which no more than eight (8) mentally ill, mentally retarded, or developmentally disabled persons reside, with one (1) or more resident counselors or other staff persons. Mental illness and developmental disability shall not include current illegal use of or addiction to a controlled substance. A group home is licensed by the Commonwealth of Virginia Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services.

Managing agent means any person having the authority, singly or in combination with another, to enter into an agreement for the occupancy of property subject to this article.

Multi-family dwelling unit means any single building, lot, or two (2) or more adjacent buildings or lots under common ownership, which contain(s) three (3) or more residential rental dwelling units. The term shall not include mobile homes under common ownership in a mobile home park or subdivision, and such term shall not include single-family dwellings, family homes with accessory apartments, two-family dwellings, or townhouses under common ownership.

Occupant means a person who, on a regular basis, spends nights at a residence. A person is considered an occupant regardless of whether he or she spends the majority of nights at a residence, if the times he or she does stay overnight are regular and recurrent. In addition, a person shall be considered an occupant if his or her clothes or other daily living supplies are maintained at the residence.

Owner means the person shown on the current real estate assessment books or current real estate assessment records, or the current fee simple title holder of the property if ownership has changed since tax assessment records were last updated.

Rent means to lease, sublease, let or otherwise grant for consideration the right to occupy a dwelling unit.

Residential rental dwelling unit means a dwelling unit that is leased or rented to one (1) or more tenants.

• Section 6-24. - Applicability.

- (a) Council may designate a rental inspection district(s) or make other individual residential rental dwelling units outside the inspection district subject to this article after notice and a public hearing thereon, as provided by Virginia Code § 36-105.1-1(B)(3), and a finding for each such individual dwelling unit by the local governing body that (i) there is a need to protect the public health, welfare and safety of the occupants of that individual dwelling unit; (ii) the individual dwelling unit is either (1) blighted or (2) in the process of deteriorating; or (iii) there is evidence of violations of the Building Code that affect the safe, decent and sanitary living conditions for

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tenants living in such individual dwelling unit. The Council conclusively finds that any individual rental dwelling unit about which the Building Inspector makes a determination of three or more founded complaints in any period of twelve consecutive months satisfies those criteria and is made subject to this Article.

- (b) Any property made subject to this Article shall remain so for a period of no less than three years thereafter, unless subsequently granted a certificate of compliance

• Section 6-25. - Rental certificate of compliance required.

No owner or managing agent shall rent or offer to rent a residential rental dwelling unit that is subject to this article without a rental certificate of compliance therefor, issued after a satisfactory inspection of the property by the building official or his or her designee.

• Section 6-26. - Inspections, generally.

- (a) The building official is hereby authorized to establish schedules to accomplish the inspection of dwelling units subject to this article. The building official shall inspect any individual residential rental dwelling unit within ninety (90) days of the date the dwelling unit is made subject to this article. After such inspection, the owner and the managing agent, if any, will be provided with a list of any violations found and the date by which such violations must be corrected. Following the initial inspection of a residential rental dwelling unit subject to this article, the building official shall perform a re-inspection in a timely manner after the date given in the violations notice.
- (b) Upon a determination that a rental dwelling unit is in compliance with the provisions of the existing structures regulations of the Virginia Uniform Statewide Building Code, a rental certificate of compliance shall be issued to the owner. No certificate shall be issued until all inspection fees are paid.
- (c) There shall be no fee for the initial inspection required by this article or the first re-inspection. If all violations are not corrected at the time of the first re-inspection, then the fee for the second and any subsequent re-inspection for the original violation shall be one hundred dollars (\$100.00).
- (d) The building official, or his or her duly authorized agent, shall have the right to inspect any rental dwelling unit subject to this article at any reasonable time, in order to carry out an inspection required by this section. The owner, managing agent, occupant, or other person in charge of the premises shall permit the building code official, or his or her duly authorized agent, access to any dwelling unit subject to this article for the purpose of conducting an inspection authorized by this article. In the event the building official or his or her authorized agent is denied access to a dwelling unit, he or she may apply for an administrative search warrant in order to gain access to the premises.
- (e) Nothing in this article shall prohibit an inspection of any residential rental dwelling unit or individual residential dwelling unit subject to this article for a violation of the Virginia Uniform Statewide Building Code, pursuant to a complaint, as required by section 1 of this chapter. In the case of complaints made

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by the tenant of the individual rental dwelling unit, the tenant must be in compliance with the terms of the lease, including being current on all rent, as prerequisite for the inspection of the complaint, or for the final determination of a founded complaint.

- (f) The owner or managing agent shall be notified of the complaint, prior to any inspection to determine if there is a founded complaint. The owner or managing agent may appeal the building official's determination of a violation of the building code to the Board of Appeals.

• Section 6-26. - Appeal.

- (a) The owner, managing agent or tenant may appeal a notice of revocation based upon the Virginia Uniform Statewide Building Code to the Board of Appeals. Any such appeal shall be filed with the department of planning and building within twenty (20) days after the date the notice of violation was served upon the owner or manager, whichever was served first. Section PM-111.0 of the Virginia Uniform Statewide Building Code shall apply to any such appeal.
- (b) The inspection exemption shall remain in effect pending the resolution of the appeal by the Board of Appeals.

• Section 6-27. - Violations.

- (a) It shall be unlawful for any owner or any other person, firm or corporation to violate any provision of this Article. Any violation shall be deemed a misdemeanor and any owner or any other person, firm or corporation convicted of a violation shall be punished by a fine of not more than two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500.00). If the violation remains uncorrected at the time of the conviction, the court shall order the violator to abate or remedy the violation in order to comply with the code. Except as otherwise provided by the court for good cause shown, any such violator shall abate or remedy the violation within six (6) months of the date of conviction. Each day during which the violation continues after the court-ordered abatement period has ended shall constitute a separate offense. Any person convicted of a second offense committed within less than five (5) years after a first offense under this chapter shall be punished by a fine of not less than one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) nor more than two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500.00). Any person convicted of a second offense committed within a period of five (5) to ten (10) years of a first offense under this chapter shall be punished by a fine of not less than five hundred dollars (\$500.00) nor more than two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500.00). Any person convicted of a third or subsequent offense involving the same property committed within ten (10) years of an offense under this chapter shall be punished by confinement in jail for not more than ten (10) days and a fine of not less than two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500.00) nor more than five thousand dollars (\$5,000.00), either or both. No portion of the fine imposed for such third or subsequent offense committed within ten (10) years of an offense under this chapter shall be suspended.

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- (b) Any prosecution under this section shall be commenced within two (2) years as provided in Virginia Code § 19.2-8.
(c) In lieu of criminal prosecution, a civil penalty equal to the amounts set forth in subsection (a) hereof may be levied for a violation.

Attest:

Karen Roberts, *Clerk of Council*

Hear an update from the City's Human Resources Office regarding a summary of application/hiring data for the period from January 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018 – City Manager Towarnicki explained that the update would be for the previous 18-month period. Travis Hodge of the Human Resources Department shared a PowerPoint detailing recruiting methods, how vacancies are advertised, demographics of applications received and positions filled, employee turnover, employee census and department concerns. Concerns about employee and director pay compared to other localities and the high number of directors close to retirement was discussed. Council Member Bowles shared concerns expressed by the African-American residents regarding minority hiring for the City and confirmed that only 23% of applicants are minorities compared to a 45% minority community population.

City of Martinsville Human Resources

For The Period
1/1/2017-6/30/2018

Recruiting

- Vacancies are announced to employees internally, to historically African-American churches, to the Martinsville-Henry County Ministerial Association, NAACP, Virginia Employment Commission, and on Facebook
- HBCUs contacted are: Hampton University, Shaw University, Virginia State, North Carolina A&T, Norfolk State, North Carolina Central, Winston-Salem State
- Other colleges contacted are: PHCC, DCC, VWCC, RCC, Guilford Tech, Averett University, Virginia Tech, and UVA
- Newspapers: Martinsville Bulletin and when specialty positions are advertised, The Roanoke Times, Greensboro News & Record, Danville Register & Bee are utilized.

How did you hear about this job?

For all positions advertised by HR during the 18 month period, below is how applicants indicated they received the job advertisement.

Indeed	968
City website	519
Employee Referral	166
Facebook	35
Martinsville Bulletin	50
Internet Search	18
Internal Applicant	34
Monster	12
Glassdoor	8
Other	10
Walk-in	8
Job fair	5
NC A&T	2
PHCC	4
Danville Register & Bee	1
Minister/Clergy Referral	2
The Franklin Center	2
Total	1844

These totals include recruitment postings for the 911 Center, Police Academy, Commonwealth Attorney's Office, and part time postings

Applications - Full-time positions under the City Manager

2016					
Race/Ethnicity	Male	Female	Unknown	Total	Percent
Hispanic or Latino	10	9		19	2
White	416	155	2	573	59.2
Black or African American	126	129	1	256	26.5
Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander				0	0
Asian	3			3	0.3
American Indian or Alaska Native	4			4	0.4
Two or More Races	12	6	79	97	10
Unknown	13	3		16	1.6
				968	

2017-6/30/2018					
Race/Ethnicity	Male	Female	Unknown	Total	Percent
Hispanic or Latino	11	10		21	1.5
White	490	376	3	866	60.3
Black or African American	165	178	3	343	23.9
Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander				0	0
Asian	4	3		7	.5
American Indian or Alaska Native	3			3	.2
Two or More Races	12	16		28	2.0
Unknown	12	7	148	167	11.6
				1435	

New Hire - Demographics Full-time positions under the City Manager

	2014 (21)		2015 (23)		2016 (29)		2017-2018 (30)	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Full Time Hires								
Hispanic or Latino					3.5% (1)		1.7% (1)	
White	57% (12)	19% (4)	57% (13)	13% (3)	75.8% (22)		80% (24)	10% (3)
Black or African American	5% (1)	14% (3)	17% (4)	13% (3)	17.2% (5)	3.5% (1)	6.7% (2)	
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander								
Asian								
Native American	5% (1)							
Two or More Races								

Turnover

- We had 31 terminations during this reporting period. Sixteen (51.6%) were retirements, 10 (32.2%) were for other employment, and 5 (16.1%) for other reasons. The average turnover for this period would be approximately 1%. This is how they breakdown by department.

Police - 8 terminations		Fire/EMS - 6 terminations	
Retirement	3	Retirement	3
Other Employment	3	Other Employment	1
Other Reasons	2	Other Reasons	2
Public Works - 7 terminations		Purchasing - 2 terminations	
Retirement	3	Retirement	2
Other Employment	3		
Other Reasons	1		
Water Resources - 3 terminations		Electric - 2 terminations	
Retirement	2	Other Employment	2
Other Employment	1		

Employee Census 2017

Census (CM-Full-time)	2015		2016		2017	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
African-American Female	7	3.3%	6	2.9%	5	2.4%
African-American Male	17	8%	19	9.1%	19	9%
White Female	30	14%	27	12.9%	26	12.4%
White Male	157	73.7%	156	74.6%	160	75.9%
Hispanic Male	1	0.5%	0	0	1	0.5%
Native American Male	1	0.5%	1	0.5%	0	0
TOTALS	213		209		211	

Concerns

- ▶ 32 of the 211 employees under the City Manager are eligible to retire.
- ▶ Of those 32 that could retire now 7 are department directors (Water Resources, Finance, Electric, Assistant City Manager, City Manager, Police Chief, Information Services). When these vacancies occur and the City recruits within “the market”, it is anticipated in order to be competitive, hire-in pay may have to substantially exceed current pay for existing positions.
- ▶ A significant concern is difficulty in recruiting for the Electric Department. First Class Line Technicians in other localities are being paid about \$15,000 more per year than City employees in that class. Other localities and contractors offer more affordable health insurance for dependents and families.

Concerns

- ▶ Retiree Health Insurance: Approximately \$270,000 is budgeted to pay the City's portion of retiree health insurance. Fifty retirees are enrolled in health insurance and of that number, 36 have retired from hazardous duty positions (Police/Fire/Sheriff). Hazardous duty employees can retire at age 50 with 25 years of service, this gives them 15 years on the health insurance. The majority of hazardous duty employees will get another full-time or part-time position. Several return to part-time work for the City.
- ▶ Funding needed to address pay compression and market adjustments across the board in order to remain competitive in the region.

Consider discussion of the City's 2019 Legislative Agenda – City Attorney Monday briefly summarized Council's comments and suggestions previously related to the 2019 Legislative Agenda and his additional recommendation in support of Senator Stanley and the Board of Education regarding school funding for construction, maintenance and operations. Other Legislative Agenda items were discussed regarding the transfer of title to the City of certain delinquent or blighted properties, funding for historical African-American cemeteries, and the addition of the urban center of micropolitan statistical areas to the eligibility list of “Entitled Cities”.



The City of Martinsville appreciates the efforts its legislators undertake at both the state and federal level on behalf of its citizens. Listed below are the City's priorities requested of its legislative delegation in 2019.

Virginia General Assembly

Transportation

1. In the short term, upgrade those portions of Route 220 overlaying I-73 to interstate standards. Any construction or upgrades to the I-73 corridor should begin on those sections passing through Henry County.
2. Continue to place priority on Route 58 improvements, particularly the section between Stuart and Hillsville, Virginia.
3. Increase VDOT funding for road construction and repaving.

Education

1. City Council endorses the concept asserted by Sen. Bill Stanley that the Virginia Constitution and United States Supreme Court precedent requires statewide parity in state funding for school construction and maintenance.
2. City Council endorses the agenda proposed by the Martinsville City School System and also endorses the educational priorities adopted by Henry County, on behalf of its school system.
3. Oppose the imposition of unaided education mandates and in the event of revenue cuts by the Commonwealth opposes targeted cuts by the Commonwealth, instead preferring local decision making authority on where to make any such cuts.
4. Recognizing its potential to promote economic development within our community and region, continue support for the development and funding of the New College Institute in its current location in Uptown Martinsville, urge that any funding reductions to New College Institute, if considered, be minimized to the greatest extent possible; and support the affiliation of The New College Institute as a branch of a four-year public university.
5. Request the Commonwealth to fully fund the expenditures imposed upon local school systems by implementing the Standards of Quality.
6. Encourage the Commonwealth to continue or increase the current levels of financial support provided to Patrick Henry Community College.
7. Request the Commonwealth to provide incentives for consolidation of school systems.

Economic Development

1. Maintain current levels of funding for economic development incentives, including but not limited to the Governor's Opportunity Fund.
2. Enhance the authority granted to localities to address and eliminate blighted properties, and the formation of interstate compacts to allow expedited recourse against out-of-state property owners.
3. Increase funding levels for the Virginia Museum of Natural History.
4. Request enhanced state and federal financial assistance for localities which exceed the average state unemployment rate by 150% for a period of five consecutive years.
5. Support continued tourism awareness initiatives in the Martinsville-Henry County region.
6. Expand local authority to designate Enterprise Zones and establish incentives.
7. Oppose efforts by Henry County PSA to reopen the Lower Smith River Wastewater Treatment Plant, absent a regional study concluding that such is in the best interests of Martinsville-Henry County taxpayers, customer base, economic needs and state environmental policy.
8. Expand grants and resources available to fiscally stressed localities, and to business development entities in such localities, to aid in the encouragement or development of small and entrepreneurial businesses.

9. Support the Virginia Grocery Investment Fund, as a public-private initiative to improve nutrition and access to quality food, and enhance economic development by encouraging the development of grocery stores in neighborhoods where none exist.

Governance

1. Request the appointment of a joint gubernatorial/legislative commission to examine the structure of local government in Virginia, the commission's mandate to include:
 - a. Examination of local government in the other 49 states for potential adaptation to Virginia.
 - b. Enable cities to expand their revenue base.
 - c. Elimination of the "zero-sum" revenue base structure, which creates friction between cities and counties.
 - d. Elimination of redundant services and programs between contiguous cities and counties.
2. Add Martinsville to Code of Virginia 58.1-3970.1(B), allowing for transfer of title to the City of certain delinquent or blighted properties.
3. Request legislation under Code of Virginia 10.1-2211.2 to secure state funding for historical African-American cemeteries in the City's West End.
4. Require full funding for HB 599 funds, in fulfillment of the Commonwealth's commitment to cities in return for their acquiescence in the annexation moratorium.
5. Require that the Commonwealth fully fund its obligations to the Virginia Retirement System, and refrain from borrowing from VRS funds.
6. Request the elimination of "local aid to the Commonwealth" in the state budget; local aid artificially inflates state revenues by shifting responsibility for cuts in vital services onto localities.
7. Elimination of all unfunded mandates from the Commonwealth to localities.
8. Oppose any elimination or alteration of local revenue streams, and specifically oppose any amendment to the current manner in which the Business Occupation and Licensing Tax and the Machinery and Tools Tax are levied, unless a replacement revenue stream, not subject to biennial appropriation, is guaranteed by the Commonwealth.
9. Preserve intact local authority to regulate zoning, land use, and regulation of the installation of wireless communication equipment.
10. Request at a minimum, level funding for operational requirements of the Henry-Martinsville Department of Social Services.
11. Request that the General Assembly leaves intact the fire programs fund and the rescue squad assistance funds and not use these funds as a way to balance the state budget.
12. Request that the Commonwealth fully fund its obligations to constitutional officers.
13. Oppose any attempt to curtail the doctrine of sovereign immunity for localities.
14. Oppose any attempt to permit collective bargaining for state and local government employees.
15. Oppose any amendment of the existing burden of proof or process in local tax appeals cases.
16. Request authority to refund erroneously paid taxes at an interest rate which differs from that imposed on delinquencies, and to refund taxes erroneously paid through the fault of the taxpayer at no interest.
17. Support VML's endorsement of a JLARC study of assigning a proportional share of lottery sales revenue to the localities generating such sales.
18. Require the Commonwealth to fund 100% of the per-diem costs of housing state inmates in local jails.
19. Support all state efforts to provide aid and support services to fiscally stressed localities, but oppose any attempts to interfere with localities' right to solve their own financial problems locally.
20. Support the alteration of award criteria in the "REACH Virginia" and all other VHDA programs to a per-capita income-based model.

United States Congress

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1. Request the addition of the urban center of micropolitan statistical areas to the eligibility list of "Entitlement Cities."
2. Oppose any effort to impose additional taxation or regulation of electrical power generation by coal or natural gas.
3. Urge the Federal Highway Commission to adopt the CTB's designated route for I-73, or alternatively to preserve the current record of decision in the event the CTB's route is rejected.
4. In the short term, upgrade those portions of Route 220 overlaying I-73 to interstate standards.
5. Request \$3.72M in funds for the redevelopment of brownfields extending from the former American Furniture and Sara Lee sites, along Aaron Street, to Rives Road.
6. Request \$6.25M in funds for the elimination and redevelopment of blighted areas in the city.
7. Request legislation to provide special federal incentives to businesses locating in regions which have experienced job losses in excess of 5% of the total workforce and/or declines in median incomes since the adoption of NAFTA, WTO or GATT. Target such areas for increased federal funding in education or workforce retraining.
8. Extend high speed broadband service throughout southern Virginia.
9. Request enhanced state and federal financial assistance for localities which exceed the average state unemployment rate by 150% for a period of five consecutive years.
10. Oppose the elimination or reduction of the federal Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credit.

Staff Designations

City Council empowers the following staff members to speak on its behalf and in its best interests to the Virginia General Assembly and United States Congress, its members and committees:
 City Attorney Eric Monday
 City Manager Leon Tovarowski
 Other department heads as appointed by the City Manager

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Consider information related to the 2019 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) list – Wayne Knox of the Community Development department detailed the need for the CEDS list, emphasizing if a project is not on the list then it will not be

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funded. The report must be approved and submitted by March 31, 2019. Any additional projects would need to be added prior to the December Council meeting when Council would approve the final list.

Revitalization of Uptown Business District--City of Martinsville	1/III	Incentivize small businesses (interior makeover/elevator)	EDA	\$900,000	\$900,000	Positive	80
Revitalization of Uptown Business District--City of Martinsville	1/II	Construct/ retrofit condos in Uptown	EDA	\$1,000,000	\$2,000,000	Positive	15
			DHCD	\$300,000			
			VHDA	\$500,000			
			City	\$200,000			
Smith River Interceptor Project--City of Martinsville	1/II	Repair and reline approximately 10,500 linear feet of reinforced concrete pipe for the sanitary sewer interceptor line that extends generally along Smith River to City Wastewater Treatment Plant	EDA	\$1,000,000	\$8,000,000	Positive	100/Indirect
			ARC	\$500,000			
			Local	\$6,500,000			
Community Development Project CDBG - Martinsville Area & Central Business District--City of Martinsville	1/II	Purchase blighted properties on Starling Avenue and adaptively reuse	HUD/NSP	\$700,000	\$1,000,000	Positive	20/Indirect
			HTC	\$300,000			
Southside Community Park Upgrading--City of Martinsville	1/III	Upgrade existing four (4) fields to accommodate youth and collegiate softball and baseball tournaments. This would include new lighting where necessary, upgrade concession stand and new sports surfaces.	DCR	\$200,000	\$3,000,000	Positive	N/A
			EDA	\$600,000			
			ARC	\$150,000			
			VTC	\$750,000			
			Other	\$1,300,000			
Community Development Project CDBG - Martinsville Area & Central Business District--City of Martinsville	1/IV	Purchase blighted properties, prepare site for development (Draper - West Church Street) - City of Martinsville	Brownfield	\$400,000	\$825,000	Unknown	100/Indirect
			EDA	\$325,000			
			City	\$100,000			
Community Development Project CDBG - Martinsville Area & Central Business District--City of Martinsville	1/III	Rives Road Site Development- full site development including A & E, site grading	EDA	\$1,400,000	\$1,400,000	Positive	400
Community Development Projects City of Martinsville	1/III	Further develop 20 acre lots- at Clearview Business Park to prepare for companies- Parcels 2 & 5	EDA	\$750,000	\$750,000	Positive	200+

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Community Development Project	1/I	Adaptive reuse of historic building on Fayette Street-	VHDA	\$800,000	\$3,800,000	Positive	100
CDBG - Martinsville Area & Central		Paradise Inn and lots surrounding it	EDA	\$1,000,000			
Business District--City of Martinsville			CDBG	\$1,000,000			
			Grants	\$1,000,000			
Community Development Development Projects--City of Martinsville	1/V	Recruit manufacturers of Clean Energy Components to Martinsville Area and Enterprise Zone	EDA	\$100,000	\$100,000	Positive	Indirect
Community Development Project	1/III	Upgrade, widen, and landscape Beaver Street from Fayette Street to Memorial Blvd - City of Martinsville	MAP-21	\$800,000	\$850,000	Positive	Indirect
CDBG - Martinsville Area & Central			VHDA	\$50,000			
Business District--City of Martinsville							
Community Development Project	1/I	Prepare City-owned site at corner of Fayette & Beaver Sts for residential, educational or commercial development - Martinsville Area and Central Business District	EDA	\$300,000	\$3,500,000	Positive	Indirect
CDBG - Martinsville Area & Central			Local	\$200,000			
Business District--City of Martinsville			CDBG	\$1,000,000			
			Grants	\$2,000,000			
Community Development Project	1/II	Write arts & cultural plan for Arts & Cultural District	NEA	\$25,000	\$82,000	Positive	Indirect
CDBG - Martinsville Area & Central			City	\$25,000			
Business District--City of Martinsville			ARC	\$32,000			
Community Development Project	1/II	Enhance Fayette Area Business District facades/greenscape/ economic revitalization - Fayette Street from Moss Street to Memorial Blvd. Planning stipend for Citizens Design - CIRD	CDBG	\$1,000,000	\$2,045,000	Positive	Indirect
CDBG - Martinsville Area & Central			Local	\$1,000,000			
Business District--City of Martinsville			CIRD	\$35,000			
			Match - Ink	\$10,000			
Community Development Project	1/IV	Purchase blighted properties - prepare site for redevelopment (202 Cleveland Avenue) - City of Martinsville	Brownfield	\$900,000	\$1,900,000	Unknown	150 - Indirect
CDBG - Martinsville Area & Central			EDA	\$500,000			
Business District--City of Martinsville			City	\$500,000			
Community Development Project	1/III	Work with partners to develop an amphitheater on Depot Street	NEA	\$50,000	\$100,000	Positive	5/Indirect
CDBG - Martinsville Area & Central			ARC	\$50,000			
Business District--City of Martinsville							

Community Development Project	1/III	Acquire and redevelop properties along commercial corridor for reuse	ARC	\$250,000	\$3,250,000	Positive	50
CDBG - Martinsville Area & Central			CDBG	\$2,000,000			
Business District--City of Martinsville			EDA	\$1,000,000			
Community Development Project	1/IV	Rives Theatre renovations	IRF	\$600,000	\$1,100,000	Positive	5/indirect
CDBG - Martinsville Area & Central			ARC	\$200,000			
Business District--City of Martinsville			HTC	\$300,000			
Community Development Project	1/III	Commonwealth Corridor Enhancement & Pedestrian linkages to Uptown & Fayette Street	VDOT	\$1,000,000	\$1,500,000	Positive	Indirect
CDBG - Martinsville Area & Central			CDBG	\$500,000			
Business District--City of Martinsville							
Community Development Project	1/III	Purchase of West Church Street property, complete feasibility study, adaptive reuse	IRF	\$500,000	\$1,000,000	Positive	20/Indirect
CDBG - Martinsville Area & Central			CDBG	\$500,000			
Business District--City of Martinsville							
Community Development Project	1/III	Purchase of Main Street property, complete feasibility study, adaptive reuse	IRF	\$500,000	\$1,000,000	Positive	20/Indirect
CDBG - Martinsville Area & Central			CDBG	\$500,000			
Business District--City of Martinsville							
MINet Fiber Optic Expansion-- City of Martinsville	1/III	Citywide expansion of MINet Martinsville fiber optic system to reach businesses and homes	EDA	\$2,000,000	\$20,500,000	NA	NA
			Other	\$11,000,000			
			Local	\$7,500,000			
Community Development Project	1/III	Upgrades to the concession, seating, and restroom areas at Hooker Field - covered seating, ADA compliant restrooms	ARC	\$200,000	\$1,700,000	Positive	N/A
Hooker Field Upgrades-- City of Martinsville		expanded press box/concession/office space	DRC	\$500,000			
			OTHER	\$1,000,000			

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Virginia Museum of Natural History City of Martinsville	1/II	Construct Outdoor Education Pavilion in rear of VMNH, to include exhibits interpreting eastern North American forest ecology	EDA	\$50,000	\$150,000	Positive	NA
			DCR	\$50,000			
			Local	\$50,000			
Wilson Park Upgrading-- City of Martinsville	1/IV	Connection of outdoor education pavilion in rear of VMNH with a bridge, crossing over Oakdale Avenue, along with a 1,000 foot canopy loop into the grand old trees in the park.	EDA	\$600,000	\$2,000,000	Positive	NA
			ARC	\$800,000			
			Other	\$600,000			
Community Parks Upgrading-- City of Martinsville	1/IV	Upgrade nine (9) existing parks (Baldwin, Beaver Creek, Jackson Street, West End, J. Russel Mason, Chatham Heights, Cole & Carol St, Victor A. Lester, Spruce St.) to improve accessibility and safety. This would include new lighting where necessary, concession stands, age-appropriate playground equipment and new playing surfaces.	DCR	\$200,000	\$1,500,000	Positive	NA
			ARC	\$200,000			
			EDA	\$300,000			
			Local	\$800,000			

WEST PIEDMONT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

P.O. Box 5268 - Martinsville, VA 24115-5268
Telephone: 276-638-3987 Fax: 276-638-8137 Email: lmanning@wppdc.org

September 4, 2018

MEMORANDUM

TO: County Administrators, Counties of Franklin, Henry, Patrick, and Pittsylvania
City Managers, Cities of Danville and Martinsville
Manager, Town of Rocky Mount

FROM: Leah Manning, Regional Economic Development Planner

RE: Year 2019 Regional Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy

Work on the 2019 CEDS update is underway. Once again, our CEDS target date is **March 31, 2019**, to align with our planning grant. One of the first steps will be for all localities to begin planning and compiling their list of prioritized projects. A listing of the projects for the current CEDS is attached, along with blank forms on which to prepare your list for next year (April 1, 2019 - March 31, 2020) to coincide with this schedule. If additional pages are needed, please make extra copies of the enclosed sheets.

To get the process started, we request that you and your staff carefully review the attached 2018 list to see if projects need to be added, revised, or deleted. Then, we ask that you update your list and indicate whether the projects are Priority I, II, and III projects, as well as an indication of Type I, II, III, IV, and V projects. Please combine the Project Type with the Project Priority column (see template included on separate tab within the file). Please note that, as with previous CEDS updates, **EDA Project Types** are incorporated as part of the project information since EDA has requested a more detailed breakdown with regard to project priorities. Since 2011, this methodology has been implemented. A guideline for the Project Types is also included for your convenience. Additionally, you may notice the "Environmental Impact" column is no longer part of the spreadsheet in order to make the list more concise.

In order to keep the CEDS development on track with the current schedule, **we need your completed project list, along with a letter of endorsement from your locality (sample form letter enclosed) no later than Friday, December 21, 2018.** We realize this is some time away, however, we want to make sure you have adequate time for planning since EDA will not consider funding projects not included on this list. In addition to EDA-eligible projects, please include CDBG, Rural Development, Appalachian Regional Commission, VDOT/Smart Scale grants, and any other grants or projects for which your jurisdiction plans to apply for funding during the period from April 1, 2019 - March 31, 2020. **We also encourage localities to work together on regional projects for inclusion on the list and as potential GO Virginia opportunities.**

With regard to Priority I projects, please remember, if you are invited to submit an EDA preapplication/grant proposal, you will need a Preliminary Engineering Report and detailed project information. EDA sometimes invites Priority II and III projects as well as Priority I projects if the project planning progresses.

If you have questions or need assistance, please let us know. **Please remember that a project must be included on the project list to be eligible for EDA funding. If you have a grant underway at this time, be sure to include it on the list for next year in case there is a carryover to the next year by EDA for some reason.** If you have projects in the planning stage, be sure to include them as well. As you are aware, things can change during the year with regard to funding availability.

Attachments

(Please return this to WPPD,
along with list of prioritized projects,
by December 21, 2018)

SAMPLE LETTER TO SUBMIT WITH CEDS PRIORITIZED PROJECT LIST

(Please return this letter to the West Piedmont Planning District Commission with your list of prioritized projects which your local governing body approves; the letter will be included as an attachment to the Regional Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy document. **DO NOT SEND THIS DIRECTLY TO EDA**)

(date)

Ms. Linda Cruz-Carnall, Regional Director
U.S. Department of Commerce
Economic Development Administration
Philadelphia Regional Office
Robert N.C. Nix Federal Building
900 Market Street, Room 602
Philadelphia, PA 19107

Dear Ms. Cruz-Carnall:

Whereas the local governing body of (name of locality) supports the West Piedmont Economic Development District Designation, this is to advise that we have elected to be covered by the Year 2019 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy for the West Piedmont Planning District in its capacity as an EDA Economic Development District. The projects included in the document's prioritized project list have been endorsed by the local governing body at its meeting on (date) for assistance in improving the economy of our area.

On behalf of my community, thank you for the opportunity to participate in the Economic Development Administration's Economic Development District Program.

Sincerely,

(local administrator)

cc: Leah Manning, WPPDC

EDA PROJECT PRIORITIES:

Priority I Projects:

Those construction or implementation projects which are in the advanced stages of planning or "ready to go" (i.e., preliminary engineering and environmental audit available or underway, matching funding available).

Priority II Projects:

Construction or implementation projects will be in formative stages of planning and which are not otherwise proceeding towards immediate implementation.

Priority III Projects:

Non-construction, non-implementation projects of a special economic development purpose which may include special issues studies, basic data collection and analysis, feasibility studies, and technical assistance projects.

EDA PROJECT TYPES:

Type I: (Shovel-Ready)

- Project Title
- Project Description
- Eligible Applicant(s)
- Project Impact Area
- Own Property
- Preliminary Engineering Report Available
- Matching Funds Status (funds currently available and documented; sources)
- Phase I Environmental Report Available
- Project has clearance documentation from State Historic Preservation Office
- Permit Status
- Estimated Number of Jobs to be Created/Retained
- Estimated Private Investment

Type II: (Project is in Final Planning Stage)

- Project Title
- Project Description
- Eligible Applicant(s)
- Project Impact Area
- Own Property
- Preliminary Engineering Report in Development
- Matching Funds Committed (funds not available but applicant can provide resolution/letter of commitment at time of application)
- Phase I Environmental Report in Process
- State Historic Preservation Office Clearance in Process
- Permit Status
- Estimated Number of Jobs to be Created/Retained
- Estimated Private Investment

Type III: (Project in Early Planning Stage)

- Project Title
- Project Description
- Eligible Applicant(s)
- Project Impact Area
- Do not own Property (option on property; other)
- Status of Preliminary Engineering
- Matching Funds Status
- Phase I Environmental Report Not Available
- State Historic Preservation Office Clearance in Process
- Estimated Number of Jobs to be Created/Retained
- Estimated Private Investment

Type IV: (Requests for Other Types of Projects—USDA-Rural Development, CDBG, ARC, VDOT Enhancement Program, GO Virginia)

- Project Title
- Project Description
- Eligible Applicant(s)
- Project Impact Area
- Matching Funding Status
- Estimated Number of Jobs to be Created/Retained, if applicable
- Estimated Private Investment, if applicable

Type V (Technical Assistance: Technical Studies)

- Project Title
- Project Description
- Eligible Applicant(s)
- Project Impact Area
- Matching Funding Status
- Other Pertinent Information

Consider approval of consent agenda – Council Member Lawson made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented; Council Member Bowles seconded the motion with all Council Members voting in favor.

Business from the Floor – no one approached the podium.

Comments by Members of City Council – Council Member Woods said he attended an event at the Rives Theater and enjoyed seeing the community enjoy music and so many different cultural activities. Council Member Lawson congratulated Council Member Bowles on her reelection and Danny Turner for his election. Lawson recently attended the Veteran's event and is proud to share that this year was well attended. Lawson shared that Saturday is the tree lighting on the City Hall lawn and wished residents a Happy Thanksgiving. Vice Mayor Martin agreed that the veteran's event was a wonderful event and wished residents a Happy Thanksgiving. Martin congratulated Bowles and Turner on the election. Council Member Bowles shared details on the December 5 New Heights Foundation holiday event and meal. She wished a happy belated birthday to her nephew and a Happy Thanksgiving to the residents. Bowles congratulated Danny Turner and thanked the voters and the poll workers during the recent election. Mayor Teague thanked Vice Mayor Martin for standing in for him at the veteran's event. Teague congratulated Bowles and Turner and agrees that they will both work hard for the City residents over the next four years.

Comments by City Manager – City Manager Towarnicki shared that the City Municipal building will close at noon on Wednesday for Thanksgiving and will reopen the following Monday.

November 13, 2018, 2018 Council Meeting

The Veteran's Day event was a huge success. On December 14 and 15 from 9:00am-5:00pm, the World War I/World War II mobile museum will be on display at the Virginia Museum of Natural History. Organizers ask residents to bring any documents and pictures from that period so they may be scanned for preservation by the Veterans Service Organization. The process to complete demolition on local properties is moving forward with the help of the City Attorney's office and Building Inspector Kris Bridges.

City Attorney Monday paid respects to a friend and public servant Christian Wolfe who recently passed away. Wolfe spent his legal career as an assistant prosecutor in the City and County and ended his career as a magistrate after being diagnosed with a brain tumor.

There being no further business, Council Member Bowles made a motion to adjourn the meeting; the motion was seconded by Vice Mayor Martin with all Council Members voting in favor. The meeting adjourned at 9:00pm.

Leon Towarnicki
Clerk of Council

Gene Teague
Mayor